

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 14, 21, 24 and 30 as shown below.

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring usage of an electronic device comprising:

a client component installed in a client device, said client component including a profile builder to generate a monitoring profile using a profile database, said client component being operative to monitor usage of said client device in accordance with the monitoring profile and to generate corresponding usage data during usage of said client device; and

a server component including the profile database, the server component being installed on a server device in communication with said client device, for receiving said usage data from said client device during usage of said client device, the server component constructing an in-memory model of said usage of said client device while the usage continues, the server component further storing said usage data in a relational data store;

wherein said monitoring profile includes information specifying which application programs which are not a part of the system for monitoring usage, and which features of said application programs, installed on said client device are to be monitored by said client component.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including a data management component disposed to store said monitoring profile and to store said usage data provided to said server device.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further including a profile management component for creating said monitoring profile, said monitoring profile including a plurality of application profiles each associated with one of said application programs.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including a data analysis component for, based upon said usage data, determining usage statistics associated with application programs installed on said client device, wherein said usage statistics include measurements of usage time, number of uses, and sequence of usage of specified one of said application programs.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including a profile management component for creating and editing said monitoring profile, said monitoring profile specifying which application programs installed on said client device are to be monitored and a frequency with which said usage data is to be reported to said server component.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6 wherein said profile management component allows for definition of a set of users of said client device to be monitored in accordance with said monitoring profile.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said client component includes a client monitoring agent for collecting said usage data in accordance with said monitoring profile and for providing said usage data to said server component, said client component further including a client service for requesting said monitoring profile from said server component and for starting said client monitoring agent upon receipt of said monitoring profile from said server component.

9. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring computer usage comprising:
a plurality of client components installed on a corresponding plurality of client computers, each said client component including a profile builder to generate a

monitoring profile using a profile database said client computers being operative to monitor usage of one of said client computers in accordance with a monitoring profile and to generate corresponding usage data during usage of said client computer; and

a server component, installed on a server computer in communication with said plurality of client computers, for receiving said usage data from each of said client components during usage of said client computer, the server component constructing an in-memory model of said usage of said client computer while the usage continues, the server component further storing said usage data in a relational data store;

wherein each said monitoring profile includes information specifying which application programs which are not a part of the system for monitoring computer usage, and which features of said application programs, installed on a corresponding one of said client computers are to be monitored.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 further including a data management component disposed to store said monitoring profiles and to store said usage data provided to said server component from each of said client components.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10 further including a profile management component for creating each of said monitoring profiles such that each of said monitoring profile includes a plurality of application profiles, each of said application profiles associated with one of said application programs.

13. (Original) The system of claim 9 further including a profile management component for creating each of said monitoring profiles and for specifying which of said monitoring profiles will be applicable to usage of said client computers by particular users.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring computer usage comprising the steps of

generating respective monitoring profiles for one or more client computers;
using a respective monitoring profile, monitoring usage of each of a plurality of client computers of the one or more client computers, during usage of said client computer, wherein each respective monitoring profile includes information specifying which application programs other than the monitoring profile, and which features of said application programs, installed on a corresponding one of said computers are to be monitored;

generating usage data based on said monitoring and providing said usage data to a server computer; and

transmitting said monitoring profiles to said client components from said server computer; and

constructing an in-memory model of said usage of said client computer while usage continues, and storing said usage data in a relational data store for processing to produce usage reports ~~substantially~~ in real-time with said usage.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 further including the step of storing said monitoring profiles remote from said client computers, and the step of storing said usage data provided to said server component from each of said client computers.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 further including the step of creating each of said monitoring profiles such that each of said monitoring profiles includes a plurality of application profiles, each of said application profiles being associated with one of said associated application programs.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14 further including the step of associating each user of one or more of said client computers with one of said monitoring profiles.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 further including the step of monitoring usage statistics for specified features of said application programs via predefined application programming interfaces of said application programs.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring user interaction with an application executing on a client device, said application being downloaded to said client device from a remote location, said method comprising the steps of:

- embedding a reference to a collection agent within said application;
- resolving said reference and installing said collection agent on said client device;
- generating a monitoring profile for the client device using a profile database at the remote location;

- during usage of said client device, monitoring user interaction with the application executing on said client device in accordance with the monitoring profile and generating corresponding usage data, wherein said monitoring profile includes information specifying which application programs, and which features of said application programs, installed on said client device are to be monitored;

- transmitting, from a monitoring location, said monitoring profile to said collection agent and, during user interaction with the application executing on said client device, transmitting said usage data from said client device to said monitoring location;

- using the received usage data, constructing an in-memory model of said usage of said client device while usage continues;

- storing said usage data in a relational data store; and

- processing to produce usage reports ~~substantially~~ in real-time with said usage.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for restricting computer usage comprising the steps of

- generating a monitoring profile which identifies prohibited usage of a client computer;

- transmitting said monitoring profile to said client computer from a server computer;

and disabling, in accordance with said monitoring profile, at least certain functionality of an application program executing on said client computer.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 [23] further including the step of automatically performing operations to effect said further interaction.

25-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said client component includes means for monitoring usage statistics for specified features of said application programs via predefined application programming interfaces of said application programs.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring user interaction with an application executing on a client device, said application being downloaded to said client device from a remote location, said method comprising the steps of:

determining if secure protocol is used for communication between the client device and the remote location;

embedding a reference to a collection agent within said application;

if secure protocol is used, adjusting the collection agent to use secure protocol, otherwise using unsecure protocol;

resolving said reference and installing said collection agent on said client device;

during usage of said client device, monitoring usage of said client device in accordance with a monitoring profile and generating corresponding usage data, wherein said monitoring profile includes information specifying which application programs, and which features of said application programs, installed on said client device are to be monitored;

using either secure protocol or unsecure protocol as appropriate, transmitting, during usage of said client device, from a monitoring location, said monitoring profile to said collection agent;

during usage of said client device, receiving said usage data at said monitoring location;

using the received usage data, constructing an in-memory model of said usage of said client device while usage continues;

storing said usage data in a relational data store;

processing the usage data to produce usage reports ~~substantially~~ in real-time with said usage.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the client component comprises a hooks dynamic linked library injected into one or more application programs activated by a user.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the client component comprises an application features dynamic linked library injected into one or more application programs activated by a user.